

By the way, I am informed by people who are a lot more expert than I am at the format by which the legislation was posted at 7 p.m. that at 7 p.m. with that format, the details of the legislation could not be accessed. So really, Mr. Speaker, what we are talking about is a lot less than even that time if we wouldn't have come to the floor until 7 p.m., which is what the New Direction for America promised, the majority repeatedly promised, and which would have been elementally fair in addition to in compliance with the promise of the majority.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would ask my friend, and he is my friend, Mr. ARCURI from New York, how many speakers he has wishing to speak.

Mr. ARCURI. I have no other speakers.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 150, nays 244, not voting 38, as follows:

[Roll No. 1095]

YEAS—150

Aderholt	Emerson	Lungren, Daniel
Akin	English (PA)	E.
Alexander	Fallin	Mack
Bachus	Feeney	Manzullo
Barrett (SC)	Flake	McCaul (TX)
Bartlett (MD)	Forbes	McCrery
Barton (TX)	Foxx	McHenry
Biggert	Franks (AZ)	McKeon
Bilbray	Frelinghuysen	Mica
Bilirakis	Galleghy	Miller (FL)
Bishop (UT)	Garrett (NJ)	Miller (MI)
Blackburn	Gerlach	Murphy, Tim
Blunt	Giffords	Musgrave
Boehner	Gilchrest	Pearce
Bonner	Gingrey	Peterson (PA)
Bono	Gohmert	Petri
Boustany	Goode	Pickering
Brady (TX)	Goodlatte	Pitts
Brown (GA)	Gordon	Platts
Buchanan	Granger	Porter
Burton (IN)	Graves	Price (GA)
Buyer	Hall (TX)	Pryce (OH)
Calvert	Hastings (WA)	Putnam
Camp (MI)	Hayes	Rangel
Campbell (CA)	Heller	Rehberg
Cannon	Hensarling	Reichert
Cantor	Hobson	Renzi
Capito	Hoekstra	Reynolds
Carter	Hulshof	Rogers (AL)
Chabot	Inglis (SC)	Rogers (KY)
Coble	Issa	Rohrabacher
Cole (OK)	Johnson (IL)	Ros-Lehtinen
Conaway	Johnson, Sam	Royce
Crenshaw	Jordan	Ryan (WI)
Culberson	Keller	Sali
Davis (KY)	King (IA)	Saxton
Davis, David	King (NY)	Schmidt
Deal (GA)	Kingston	Sensenbrenner
Delahunt	Kirk	Shadegg
Diaz-Balart, L.	Knollenberg	Shays
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lamborn	Shimkus
Doolittle	Latham	Shuster
Drake	LaTourette	Simpson
Dreier	Lewis (KY)	Smith (TX)
Duncan	Linder	Sullivan
Ehlers	Lucas	Tancredo

Thornberry	Walberg
Tiahrt	Wamp
Tiberi	Westmoreland
Turner	Wicker
Upton	Wilson (NM)

NAYS—244

Abercrombie	Green, Gene	Myrick
Ackerman	Grijalva	Nadler
Allen	Gutierrez	Napolitano
Altmire	Hall (NY)	Neal (MA)
Andrews	Hare	Obey
Arcuri	Harman	Olver
Baca	Hastings (FL)	Ortiz
Bachmann	Herger	Pallone
Baird	Hereth Sandlin	Pascarell
Baldwin	Hill	Pastor
Barrow	Hinchey	Payne
Bean	Hinojosa	Perlmutter
Becerra	Hirono	Peterson (MN)
Berkley	Hodes	Pomeroy
Berman	Holden	Price (NC)
Berry	Holt	Rahall
Bishop (GA)	Honda	Ramstad
Bishop (NY)	Hooley	Regula
Blumenauer	Hoyer	Reyes
Boozman	Hunter	Richardson
Boren	Inslee	Rodriguez
Boswell	Israel	Rogers (MI)
Boucher	Jackson (IL)	Ross
Boyd (FL)	Jackson-Lee	Rothman
Boyd (KS)	(TX)	Roybal-Allard
Brady (PA)	Jefferson	Rush
Braley (IA)	Johnson (GA)	Ryan (OH)
Brown (SC)	Johnson, E. B.	Salazar
Brown, Corrine	Jones (NC)	Sánchez, Linda
Brown-Waite,	Jones (OH)	T.
Ginny	Kagen	Sanchez, Loretta
Burgess	Kanjorski	Sarbanes
Butterfield	Kaptur	Schakowsky
Capps	Kennedy	Schiff
Carnahan	Kildee	Schwartz
Carney	Kilpatrick	Scott (GA)
Castle	Klein (FL)	Scott (VA)
Castor	Kline (MN)	Serrano
Chandler	Kucinich	Sestak
Clarke	Kuhl (NY)	Shea-Porter
Clay	LaHood	Sherman
Cleaver	Lampson	Shuler
Clyburn	Langevin	Sires
Cohen	Lantos	Skelton
Conyers	Larsen (WA)	Slaughter
Cooper	Larson (CT)	Smith (NE)
Costa	Lee	Smith (NJ)
Costello	Lewis (CA)	Snyder
Courtney	Lewis (GA)	Solis
Cramer	Lipinski	Space
Crowley	LoBiondo	Spratt
Cuellar	Loeb sack	Stark
Cummings	Loftgren, Zoe	Stearns
Davis (AL)	Lowey	Stupak
Davis (CA)	Mahoney (FL)	Sutton
Davis (IL)	Maloney (NY)	Tanner
Davis, Lincoln	Marchant	Tauscher
DeFazio	Markey	Taylor
DeGette	Marshall	Terry
DeLauro	Matheison	Thompson (CA)
Dent	Matsui	Thompson (MS)
Dicks	McCarthy (NY)	Towns
Dingell	McCotter	Tsongas
Doggett	McGovern	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	McHugh	Van Hollen
Edwards	McIntyre	Velázquez
Ellison	McNerney	Visclosky
Ellsworth	McNulty	Walden (OR)
Emanuel	Meeks (NY)	Walsh (NY)
Engel	Michaud	Walz (MN)
Eshoo	Miller (NC)	Wasserman
Etheridge	Miller, Gary	Schultz
Everett	Miller, George	Waters
Farr	Mitchell	Watson
Fattah	Mollohan	Watt
Ferguson	Moore (KS)	Waxman
Finler	Moore (WI)	Weiner
Fortenberry	Moran (KS)	Welch (VT)
Fossella	Murphy (CT)	Wolf
Frank (MA)	Murphy, Patrick	Woolsey
Gillibrand	Murtha	Wu
Gonzalez		Wynn
Green, Al		

NOT VOTING—38

Baker	Hastert	McMorris
Capuano	Higgins	Rodgers
Carpino	Jindal	Meek (FL)
Carson	Levin	Melancon
Cubin	McCarthy (CA)	Moran (VA)
Davis, Tom	McCollum (MN)	Neugebauer
Doyle	McDermott	Nunes

Oberstar	Ruppersberger	Weldon (FL)
Paul	Sessions	Weller
Pence	Smith (WA)	Wexler
Poe	Souder	Whitfield
Radanovich	Tierney	Wilson (OH)
Roskam	Udall (CO)	Yarmuth

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there is less than 1½ minutes remaining.

□ 1456

Messrs. BRALEY of Iowa, ROTHMAN and HINCHEY, and Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio and Mrs. MYRICK changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. TURNER and BARTLETT of Maryland changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the motion to adjourn was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1095, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3074, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I will be asking for a "no" vote on the previous question so that we can amend this rule and move toward passing a conference report on the bipartisan Military Construction-Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act.

The House passed the veterans and military funding bill on June 15 by a vote of 409-2, with the Senate following suit and naming conferees on September 6. Unfortunately, the majority leadership in the House has refused to move the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act. They have even refused to name conferees.

Now, the question that is begged, Mr. Speaker, is why has the majority decided to hold off on moving this bill that obviously has such bipartisan support. Well, according to several publications, including this one, Roll Call, the majority intends to hold off sending appropriations bills to President Bush so that they can use the veto of the Labor-HHS appropriations bill to serve as "an extension of their successful public relations campaign on the SCHIP program."

Mr. DREIER. Will the gentleman yield for one moment?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Yes, I will yield to my distinguished friend.

Mr. DREIER. Was that quote that my friend provided something that was written by Republican staff members? Where exactly did that come from?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Roll Call.

Mr. DREIER. Oh, okay. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Reclaiming my time, fortunately that purely political move, Mr. Speaker, failed last week when the Senate removed the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs bill from the Labor-HHS bill.

Recently, Mr. Speaker, the Republican leader, Mr. BOEHNER, took a step toward naming House Republican conferees. Now the distinguished Speaker must follow suit and take the steps necessary to ensure that work can begin on writing the final veterans funding bill that can be enacted into law.

Mr. Speaker, every day that the majority chooses not to act on this bill, veterans lose \$18.5 million. Our veterans deserve better than partisan gamesmanship holding back their funding.

I urge my colleagues to help move this important legislation and oppose the previous question.

Mr. DREIER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I will yield to my friend.

□ 1500

Mr. DREIER. I thank my friend for yielding.

I would just like to ask him to clarify one more time before we vote on this issue, I think this is going to be the 11th time we have had an opportunity to vote on this.

I have just been reminded by our crack Rules Committee staff that this is, in fact, the 12th time that this House has had the opportunity to vote on this issue. I guess the second or third time in Veterans Week. We have just marked the date on which we honor our Nation's veterans, and this House has repeatedly, repeatedly denied us the opportunity to move ahead and get the very much-needed assistance to our Nation's veterans. I think that this vote is going to be critically important in our quest to move that effort forward.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I thank my friend. I think that it is critically important that we get this legislation passed as soon as possible and sent to the President. It is the 12th time that we have attempted in this House to get this bill sent to the President. Mr. Speaker, obviously this is critically important legislation, a critically important moment. And so I urge my colleagues to help move the important veterans legislation along by opposing the previous question.

I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of the amendment and extraneous materials immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ARCURI. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS).

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, if the American people have just heard the last colloquy between my two colleagues, perhaps they wouldn't have understood that when my two colleagues were in the majority in this House, for 12 years, the last time they passed a Veterans appropriation bill on time wasn't in 2005, 2004, no, not in 2003 either, not in 2002, not in 2001. You have to go back to 1996 to find when they passed an appropriations bill for veterans on time.

I can understand why the gentleman wouldn't want the facts to get out to the people who might have just watched him on television have a colloquy that was not factual in explaining the fact that when he was chairman of the Rules Committee, it was 11 years ago when they last passed a Veterans appropriation bill on time.

Mr. Speaker, let me also point out they forgot conveniently, perhaps convenient political memory here, they forgot conveniently to explain to the people listening that under the Democratic leadership we have passed \$8.1 billion of increase in veterans funding this year, most of that going to veterans health care, the largest in the history of America.

One final point, Mr. Speaker. The two gentlemen also forgot to make one other point, and that is that as they chastise this Congress as being a little over 1 month late in passing the Veterans bill, even though we have already passed an \$8.1 billion increase, they forgot to tell the American people that last year they didn't pass the VA bill in October, not in November, not in December. In fact, they adjourned the Congress for their Christmas holiday without passing the Veterans appropriation bill.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have a point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may state it.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. My parliamentary inquiry is as follows: When I asked the gentleman if he had any further speakers before yielding back the reminder of our time, I was informed that he did not. Is it correct for the gentleman to say that he has no further speakers, and then after, based on that statement, I yield back our time, he yields to someone else in contradiction to what he has told me?

Is that appropriate, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is free to yield his time as he sees fit.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Is that appropriate, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized.

Mr. ARCURI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would also point out that the gentleman from Florida indicated that he had no further speakers, and he recognized the gentleman from California.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I didn't recognize. I yielded. No. No.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York controls the time, and the gentleman is recognized.

Mr. ARCURI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Additionally, I would like to point out that whenever anybody makes factually incorrect statements on the floor, I am going to yield to my colleagues to make sure that the record is made clear, and that is why I yielded to Mr. EDWARDS on that point.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, the Transportation-HUD appropriations bill, like very few other things that we as a body deal with, deals and helps and touches many, many millions of Americans, whether it is CDBG money that goes to help the elderly make a senior center more accessible, or whether it is fixing our roads that thousands of commuters travel on every day, it is a bill that is critically important. All we have heard from the other side of the aisle are procedural reasons why we shouldn't go forward. That is what the American people are tired of. They are tired of the process, the procedure. They want action. They want things accomplished.

During the break, I had an opportunity to talk to my friend and colleague from Wisconsin, Representative KAGEN, and he made a good point. He said, you know, while we spend billions of dollars in Iraq, and no one talks about it, we hear all kinds of complaints when we try to spend millions of dollars domestically on programs that help Americans, needy Americans, people that need it most.

Mr. Speaker, that's why we need to pass this rule. I urge a "yes" vote on the previous question and on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 817 OFFERED BY MR. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART OF FLORIDA

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 2. The House disagrees to the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 2642, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference requested by the Senate thereon. The Speaker shall appoint conferees immediately, but may declare a recess under clause 12(a) of rule I for the purpose of consulting the Minority Leader prior to such appointment. The motion to instruct conferees otherwise in order pending the appointment of conferees instead shall be in order only at a time designated by the Speaker in the legislative schedule within two additional legislative days after adoption of this resolution.

(The information contained herein was provided by Democratic Minority on multiple occasions throughout the 109th Congress.)

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Democratic majority agenda and a vote to allow the opposition, at least for the moment, to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives, (VI, 308-311) describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

Because the vote today may look bad for the Democratic majority they will say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the definition of the previous question used in the Floor Procedures Manual published by the Rules Committee in the 109th Congress, (page 56). Here's how the Rules Committee described the rule using information from Congressional Quarterly's "American Congressional Dictionary": "If the previous question is defeated, control of debate shifts to the leading opposition member (usually the minority Floor Manager) who then manages an hour of debate and may offer a germane amendment to the pending business."

Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: "Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Democratic majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Mr. ARCURI. I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of adoption of the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 221, noes 195, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 1096]

AYES—221

Abercrombie	Gutierrez	Napolitano
Ackerman	Hall (NY)	Neal (MA)
Allen	Hare	Obey
Altmire	Harman	Oliver
Andrews	Hastings (FL)	Ortiz
Arcuri	Hersteth Sandlin	Pallone
Baca	Higgins	Pascarell
Baird	Hill	Pastor
Baldwin	Hinchey	Payne
Bean	Hinojosa	Perlmuter
Becerra	Hirono	Peterson (MN)
Berkley	Hodes	Pomeroy
Berman	Holden	Price (NC)
Berry	Holt	Rahall
Bishop (GA)	Honda	Rangel
Bishop (NY)	Hooley	Reyes
Blumenauer	Hoyer	Richardson
Boren	Inslee	Rodriguez
Boswell	Israel	Ross
Boucher	Jackson (IL)	Rothman
Boyd (FL)	Jackson-Lee	Roybal-Allard
Boyd (KS)	(TX)	Rush
Brady (PA)	Jefferson	Ryan (OH)
Braley (IA)	Johnson (GA)	Salazar
Brown, Corrine	Johnson, E. B.	Sanchez, Linda
Butterfield	Jones (OH)	T.
Capps	Kagen	Sanchez, Loretta
Capuano	Kanjorski	Sarbanes
Cardoza	Kaptur	Schakowsky
Carnahan	Kennedy	Schiff
Carney	Kildee	Emerson
Castor	Kilpatrick	English (PA)
Chandler	Kind	Everett
Clarke	Klein (FL)	Fallin
Clay	Kucinich	Feeney
Clyburn	Lampson	Ferguson
Cohen	Langevin	Flake
Conyers	Lantos	Forbes
Cooper	Larsen (WA)	Fortenberry
Costa	Larson (CT)	Fossella
Costello	Lee	Fox
Courtney	Lewis (GA)	Franks (AZ)
Cramer	Lipinski	Frelinghuysen
Crowley	Loeb	Gallegly
Cuellar	Lofgren, Zoe	
Cummings	Lowe	
Davis (AL)	Lynch	
Davis (CA)	Maloney (FL)	
Davis (IL)	Maloney (NY)	
Davis, Lincoln	Markey	
DeFazio	Marshall	
DeGette	Matheson	
DeLauro	Matsui	
Diaz-Balart, L.	McCarthy (NY)	
Dicks	McCollum (MN)	
Dingell	McDermott	
Doggett	McGovern	
Edwards	McIntyre	
Ellison	McNulty	
Emanuel	Meek (FL)	
Engel	Meeks (NY)	
Eshoo	Melancon	
Etheridge	Michaud	
Farr	Miller (NC)	
Fattah	Miller, George	
Finer	Mitchell	
Frank (MA)	Mollohan	
Giffords	Moore (KS)	
Gillibrand	Moore (WI)	
Gonzalez	Moran (VA)	
Gordon	Murphy (CT)	
Green, Al	Murphy, Patrick	
Green, Gene	Murtha	
Grijalva	Nadler	

NOES—195

Aderholt	Alexander	Bachus
Akin	Bachmann	Baker

Barrett (SC)	Garrett (NJ)	Neugebauer
Barrow	Gerlach	Nunes
Bartlett (MD)	Gilchrest	Pearce
Barton (TX)	Gingrey	Pence
Biggert	Gohmert	Peterson (PA)
Bilbray	Goode	Petri
Bilirakis	Goodlatte	Pickering
Bishop (UT)	Granger	Pitts
Blackburn	Graves	Platts
Blunt	Hall (TX)	Poe
Boehner	Hastings (WA)	Porter
Bonner	Hayes	Price (GA)
Bono	Heller	Pryce (OH)
Boozman	Hensarling	Putnam
Boustany	Herger	Radanovich
Brady (TX)	Hobson	Ramstad
Broun (GA)	Hoekstra	Regula
Brown (SC)	Hulshof	Rehberg
Brown-Waite,	Hunter	Reichert
Ginny	Inglis (SC)	Renzi
Buchanan	Issa	Reynolds
Burgess	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (AL)
Burton (IN)	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (KY)
Buyer	Jones (NC)	Rogers (MI)
Calvert	Jordan	Rohrabacher
Camp (MI)	Keller	Ros-Lehtinen
Campbell (CA)	King (IA)	Roskam
Cantor	King (NY)	Royce
Capito	Kingston	Ryan (WI)
Carter	Kirk	Sali
Castle	Kline (MN)	Saxton
Chabot	Knollenberg	Schmidt
Coble	Kuhl (NY)	Sensenbrenner
Cole (OK)	LaHood	Shadegg
Conaway	Lamborn	Shays
Crenshaw	Latham	Shimkus
Culberson	LaTourette	Shuster
Davis (KY)	Lewis (CA)	Simpson
Davis, David	Lewis (KY)	Smith (NE)
Davis, Tom	Linder	Smith (NJ)
Deal (GA)	LoBiondo	Smith (TX)
Dent	Lucas	Souder
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lungren, Daniel	Stearns
Donnelly	E.	Sullivan
Doolittle	Mack	Tancred
Drake	Manzullo	Terry
Dreier	Marchant	Thornberry
Duncan	McCarthy (CA)	Tiahrt
Ehlers	McCaul (TX)	Tiberi
Ellsworth	McCotter	Turner
Emerson	McCrery	Upton
English (PA)	McHenry	Walberg
Everett	McHugh	Walden (OR)
Fallin	McKeon	Walsh (NY)
Feeney	McMorris	Wamp
Ferguson	Rodgers	Weldon (FL)
Flake	Mica	Westmoreland
Forbes	Miller (FL)	Whitfield
Fortenberry	Miller (MI)	Wicker
Fossella	Miller, Gary	Wilson (NM)
Fox	Moran (KS)	Wilson (SC)
Franks (AZ)	Murphy, Tim	Wolf
Frelinghuysen	Musgrave	Young (AK)
Gallegly	Myrick	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—16

Cannon	Jindal	Towns
Carson	Levin	Udall (CO)
Cleaver	Oberstar	Weller
Cubin	Paul	Wilson (OH)
Doyle	Ruppersberger	
Hastert	Sessions	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are less than 2 minutes remaining on this vote. Members are further reminded to stay in the Chamber. There are votes immediately following this one.

□ 1526

Mr. PEARCE changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1096, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to reconsider the vote on the previous question.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Did the gentleman cast a vote on the prevailing side?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, yes, I did.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. ARCURI

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I move to table the motion to reconsider.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 221, noes 196, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 1097]

AYES—221

Abercrombie	Engel	Maloney (NY)
Ackerman	Eshoo	Markey
Allen	Etheridge	Marshall
Altmire	Farr	Matheson
Andrews	Fattah	Matsui
Arcuri	Filner	McCarthy (NY)
Baca	Frank (MA)	McCollum (MN)
Baird	Giffords	McDermott
Baldwin	Gillibrand	McGovern
Barrow	Gonzalez	McIntyre
Bean	Gordon	McNerney
Becerra	Granger	McNulty
Berkley	Green, Al	Meek (FL)
Berman	Green, Gene	Meeks (NY)
Berry	Grijalva	Melancon
Bishop (GA)	Gutierrez	Michaud
Bishop (NY)	Hall (NY)	Miller (NC)
Blumenauer	Hare	Miller, George
Boren	Harman	Mitchell
Boswell	Hastings (FL)	Molloy
Boucher	Hereth Sandlin	Moore (KS)
Boyd (FL)	Higgins	Moore (WI)
Boyd (KS)	Hill	Moran (VA)
Brady (PA)	Hinchey	Murphy (CT)
Braley (IA)	Hinojosa	Murphy, Patrick
Brown, Corrine	Hirono	Murtha
Butterfield	Hodes	Nadler
Capps	Holden	Napolitano
Capuano	Holt	Neal (MA)
Cardoza	Honda	Obey
Carnahan	Hookey	Oliver
Carney	Hoyer	Ortiz
Castor	Inslee	Pallone
Chandler	Israel	Pascarell
Clarke	Jackson (IL)	Pastor
Clay	Jackson-Lee	Payne
Cleaver	(TX)	Perlmutter
Clyburn	Jefferson	Peterson (MN)
Cohen	Johnson (GA)	Pomeroy
Conyers	Johnson, E. B.	Price (NC)
Cooper	Jones (OH)	Rahall
Costa	Kagen	Rangel
Costello	Kanjorski	Richardson
Courtney	Kennedy	Rodriguez
Cramer	Kildee	Ross
Crowley	Kilpatrick	Rothman
Cuellar	Kind	Rush
Cummings	Klein (FL)	Rushal-Allard
Davis (AL)	Kucinich	Royal
Davis (CA)	Lampson	Salazar
Davis (IL)	Langevin	Sánchez, Linda
Davis, Lincoln	Lantos	T.
DeFazio	Larsen (WA)	Sanchez, Loretta
DeGette	Larson (CT)	Sarbanes
Delahunt	Lee	Schakowsky
DeLauro	Lewis (GA)	Schiff
Dicks	Lipinski	Schwartz
Dingell	Loebach	Scott (GA)
Doggett	Lofgren, Zoe	Scott (VA)
Edwards	Lowey	Serrano
Ellison	Lynch	Sestak
Emanuel	Mahoney (FL)	Shea-Porter
		Sherman

Shuler	Tauscher
Sires	Taylor
Skelton	Thompson (CA)
Slaughter	Thompson (MS)
Smith (WA)	Tierney
Snyder	Towns
Solis	Tsongas
Space	Udall (NM)
Spratt	Van Hollen
Stark	Velázquez
Stupak	Visclosky
Sutton	Walz (MN)
Tanner	

NOES—196

Aderholt	Fox	Myrick
Akin	Franks (AZ)	Neugebauer
Alexander	Frelinghuysen	Nunes
Bachmann	Gallegly	Pearce
Bachus	Garrett (NJ)	Pence
Baker	Gerlach	Peterson (PA)
Barrett (SC)	Gilchrest	Petri
Bartlett (MD)	Gingrey	Pickering
Barton (TX)	Gohmert	Pitts
Biggett	Goode	Platts
Bilbray	Goodlatte	Poe
Bilirakis	Graves	Porter
Bishop (UT)	Hall (TX)	Price (GA)
Blackburn	Hastings (WA)	Pryce (OH)
Blunt	Hayes	Putnam
Boehner	Heller	Radanovich
Bonner	Hensarling	Ramstad
Bono	Herger	Regula
Boozman	Hobson	Rehberg
Boustany	Hoekstra	Reichert
Brady (TX)	Hulshof	Renzi
Brown (GA)	Hunter	Reynolds
Brown (SC)	Inglis (SC)	Rogers (AL)
Brown-Waite,	Issa	Rogers (KY)
Ginny	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (MI)
Buchanan	Johnson, Sam	Rohrabacher
Burgess	Jones (NC)	Ros-Lehtinen
Burton (IN)	Jordan	Roskam
Buyer	Kaptur	Royce
Calvert	Keller	Ryan (WI)
Camp (MI)	King (IA)	Sali
Campbell (CA)	King (NY)	Saxton
Cannon	Kingston	Schmidt
Cantor	Kirk	Sensenbrenner
Capito	Kline (MN)	Shadeegg
Carter	Knollenberg	Shays
Castle	Kuhl (NY)	Shimkus
Chabot	LaHood	Shuster
Coble	Lamborn	Simpson
Cole (OK)	Latham	Smith (NE)
Conaway	LaTourette	Smith (NJ)
Crenshaw	Lewis (CA)	Smith (TX)
Culberson	Lewis (KY)	Souder
Davis (KY)	Linder	Stearns
Davis, David	LoBiondo	Sullivan
Davis, Tom	Lucas	Tancredo
Deal (GA)	Lungren, Daniel	Terry
Dent	E.	Thornberry
Diaz-Balart, L.	Mack	Tiahrt
Diaz-Balart, M.	Manzullo	Tiberi
Donnelly	Marchant	Turner
Doolittle	McCarthy (CA)	Upton
Drake	McCaul (TX)	Walberg
Dreier	McCotter	Walden (OR)
Duncan	McCrery	Walsh (NY)
Ehlers	McHenry	Wamp
Ellsworth	McHugh	Weldon (FL)
Emerson	McKeon	Westmoreland
English (PA)	McMorris	Whitfield
Everett	Rodgers	Wicker
Fallin	Mica	Wilson (NM)
Feeney	Miller (FL)	Wilson (SC)
Ferguson	Miller (MI)	Wolf
Flake	Miller, Gary	Young (AK)
Forbes	Moran (KS)	Young (FL)
Fortenberry	Murphy, Tim	
Fossella	Musgrave	

NOT VOTING—15

Carson	Levin	Ryan (OH)
Cubin	Oberstar	Sessions
Doyle	Paul	Udall (CO)
Hastert	Reyes	Weller
Jindal	Ruppersberger	Wilson (OH)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are less than 2 minutes remaining to vote.

□ 1534

So the motion to table was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1097, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 224, noes 194, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 1098]

AYES—224

Abercrombie	Fattah	McIntyre
Ackerman	Filner	McNerney
Allen	Frank (MA)	McNulty
Altmire	Giffords	Meek (FL)
Andrews	Gillibrand	Meeks (NY)
Arcuri	Gonzalez	Melancon
Baca	Gordon	Michaud
Baird	Green, Al	Miller (NC)
Baldwin	Green, Gene	Miller, George
Barrow	Grijalva	Mitchell
Bean	Gutierrez	Mollohan
Becerra	Hall (NY)	Moore (KS)
Berkley	Hare	Moore (WI)
Berman	Harman	Moran (VA)
Berry	Hastings (FL)	Murphy (CT)
Bishop (GA)	Hereth Sandlin	Murphy, Patrick
Bishop (NY)	Higgins	Murtha
Blumenauer	Hill	Nadler
Boren	Hinchey	Napolitano
Boswell	Hinojosa	Neal (MA)
Boucher	Hirono	Obey
Boyd (FL)	Hodes	Oliver
Boyd (KS)	Holden	Ortiz
Brady (PA)	Holt	Pallone
Braley (IA)	Honda	Pascarell
Brown, Corrine	Hookey	Pastor
Butterfield	Hoyer	Payne
Capps	Inslee	Perlmutter
Capuano	Israel	Peterson (MN)
Cardoza	Jackson (IL)	Pomeroy
Carnahan	Jackson-Lee	Price (NC)
Carney	(TX)	Rahall
Castor	Jefferson	Rangel
Chandler	Johnson (GA)	Reyes
Clarke	Johnson, E. B.	Richardson
Clay	Jones (OH)	Rodriguez
Cleaver	Kagen	Ross
Clyburn	Kanjorski	Rothman
Cohen	Kennedy	Roybal-Allard
Conyers	Kildee	Rush
Cooper	Kilpatrick	Ryan (OH)
Costa	Kind	Salazar
Costello	Klein (FL)	Sánchez, Linda
Courtney	Kucinich	T.
Cramer	Kucinich	Sanchez, Loretta
Crowley	Lampson	Sarbanes
Cuellar	Langevin	Schakowsky
Cummings	Lantos	Schiff
Davis (AL)	Larsen (WA)	Schwartz
Davis (CA)	Larson (CT)	Scott (GA)
Davis (IL)	Lee	Scott (VA)
Davis, Lincoln	Lewis (GA)	Serrano
DeFazio	Lipinski	Sestak
DeGette	Loebach	Shea-Porter
Delahunt	Lofgren, Zoe	Sherman
DeLauro	Lowey	Shuler
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lynch	Sires
Dicks	Mahoney (FL)	Skelton
Dingell	Maloney (NY)	Slaughter
Doggett	Markey	Smith (WA)
Edwards	Marshall	Snyder
Ellison	Matheson	Solis
Emanuel	Matsui	Space
Engel	McCarthy (NY)	Spratt
Eshoo	McCollum (MN)	Stark
Etheridge	McDermott	Stupak
Farr	McGovern	Sutton

Tanner Van Hollen Waxman
Tauscher Velázquez Weiner
Taylor Visclosky Welch (VT)
Thompson (CA) Walz (MN) Wexler
Thompson (MS) Wasserman Woolsey
Tierney Schultz Wu
Towns Waters Wynn
Tsongas Watson Yarmuth
Udall (NM) Watt

NOES—194

Aderholt Foxx Myrick
Akin Franks (AZ) Neugebauer
Alexander Frelinghuysen Nunes
Bachmann Gallegly Pearce
Bachus Garrett (NJ) Pence
Baker Gerlach Peterson (PA)
Barrett (SC) Gilchrest Petri
Bartlett (MD) Gingrey Pickering
Barton (TX) Gohmert Pitts
Biggert Goode Platts
Bilbray Goodlatte Poe
Bilirakis Graves Porter
Bishop (UT) Hall (TX) Price (GA)
Blackburn Hastings (WA) Pryce (OH)
Blunt Hayes Putnam
Boehner Heller Radanovich
Bonner Hensarling Ramstad
Bono Herger
Boozman Hobson Regula
Boustany Hoekstra Rehberg
Brady (TX) Hulshof Reichert
Broun (GA) Hunter Renzi
Brown (SC) Inglis (SC) Reynolds
Brown-Waite, Issa Rogers (AL)
Ginny Johnson (IL) Rogers (KY)
Buchanan Johnson, Sam Rogers (MI)
Burgess Jones (NC) Rohrabacher
Burton (IN) Jordan Ros-Lehtinen
Buyer Keller Roskam
Calvert King (IA) Royce
Camp (MI) King (NY) Ryan (WI)
Campbell (CA) Kingston Sali
Cannon Kirk Saxton
Cantor Kline (MN) Schmidt
Capito Knollenberg Sensenbrenner
Carter Kuhl (NY) Shadegg
Castle LaHood Shays
Chabot Lamborn Shimkus
Coble Latham Shuster
Cole (OK) LaTourette Simpson
Conaway Lewis (CA) Smith (NE)
Crenshaw Lewis (KY) Smith (NJ)
Culberson Linder Smith (TX)
Davis (KY) LoBiondo Souder
Davis, David Lucas Stearns
Davis, Tom Lungren, Daniel
Deal (GA) E. Tancredo
Dent Mack Terry
Diaz-Balart, M. Manzullo Thornberry
Donnelly Marchant Tiahrt
Doolittle McCarthy (CA) Tiberi
Drake McCaul (TX) Turner
Dreier McCotter Upton
Duncan McCreery Walberg
Ehlers McHenry Walden (OR)
Ellsworth McHugh Walsh (NY)
Emerson McKeon Wamp
English (PA) McMorris Weldon (FL)
Everett Rodgers Westmoreland
Fallin Mica Whitfield
Feeney Miller (FL) Wicker
Ferguson Miller (MI) Wilson (NM)
Flake Miller, Gary Wilson (SC)
Forbes Moran (KS) Wolf
Fortenberry Murphy, Tim Young (AK)
Fossella Musgrave Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—14

Carson Jindal Sessions
Cubin Levin Udall (CO)
Doyle Oberstar Weller
Granger Paul Wilson (OH)
Hastert Ruppersberger

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are reminded they have less than 2 minutes remaining on this vote.

□ 1540

So the resolution was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
Stated for:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1098, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to reconsider the vote on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Did the gentleman cast his vote on the pre-vailing side?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Yes, I did.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. ARCURI

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I move to table the motion to reconsider.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 213, noes 194, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 1099]

AYES—213

Abercrombie Engel Lofgren, Zoe
Ackerman Eshoo Lowey
Allen Etheridge Lynch
Altmire Farr Mahoney (FL)
Andrews Fattah Maloney (NY)
Arcuri Filner Markey
Baca Frank (MA) Marshall
Baird Giffords Matheson
Baldwin Gillibrand Matsui
Barrow Gonzalez McCarthy (NY)
Becerra Gordon McCollum (MN)
Berkley Green, Al McDermott
Berry Green, Gene McGovern
Bishop (GA) Grijalva McIntyre
Bishop (NY) Hall (NY) McNerney
Blumenauer Hare McNulty
Boren Harman Meek (FL)
Boswell Hastings (FL) Meeks (NY)
Boucher Hereth Sandlin Melancon
Boyd (FL) Higgins Michaud
Boyda (KS) Hill Miller (NC)
Brady (PA) Hinchey Miller, George
Braley (IA) Hinojosa Mitchell
Brown, Corrine Hiron Mollohan
Butterfield Hodes Moore (WI)
Capps Holden Moran (VA)
Capuano Holt Murphy, Patrick
Cardoza Honda Murtha
Carney Hooley Nadler
Castor Hoyer Napolitano
Chandler Inslee Neal (MA)
Clarke Israel Obey
Clay Jackson (IL) Oliver
Cleaver Jackson-Lee Ortiz
Clyburn (TX) Pallone
Cohen Jefferson Pascarell
Conyers Johnson (GA) Pastor
Cooper Johnson, E. B. Payne
Costa Jones (OH) Perlmuter
Costello Kagen Peterson (MN)
Courtney Kanjorski Pomeroy
Cramer Kaptur Price (NC)
Crowley Kennedy Rahall
Cummings Kildee Rangel
Davis (AL) Kilpatrick Reyes
Davis (CA) Kind Richardson
Davis (IL) Klein (FL) Rodriguez
Davis, Lincoln Kucinich Ross
DeFazio Lampson Rothman
DeGette Langevin Roybal-Allard
Delahunt Lantos Rush
DeLauro Larsen (WA) Ryan (OH)
Dingell Larson (CT) Salazar
Doggett Lee Sanchez, Linda
Edwards Lewis (GA) T.
Ellison Lipinski Sanchez, Loretta
Emanuel Loebsock Sarbanes

Schakowsky Schiff
Schwartz Scott (GA)
Scott (VA) Serrano
Sestak Shea-Porter
Sherman Shuler
Skelton Slaughter
Smith (WA) Snyder
Solis Velázquez

Space Visclosky
Spratt Walz (MN)
Stark Wasserman
Stupak Schultz
Sutton Waters
Tanner Watson
Tauscher Watt
Thompson (CA) Waxman
Thompson (MS) Weiner
Tierney Welch (VT)
Towns Wexler
Tsongas Woolsey
Udall (NM) Wu
Van Hollen Wynn
Velázquez Yarmuth

NOES—194

Aderholt Foxx Myrick
Akin Franks (AZ) Neugebauer
Alexander Frelinghuysen Nunes
Bachmann Gallegly Pearce
Bachus Garrett (NJ) Pence
Baker Gerlach Peterson (PA)
Barrett (SC) Gilchrest Petri
Bartlett (MD) Gingrey Pickering
Barton (TX) Gohmert Pitts
Biggert Goode Platts
Bilbray Goodlatte Poe
Bilirakis Granger Porter
Bishop (UT) Graves Price (GA)
Blunt Hall (TX) Pryce (OH)
Boehner Hastert Putnam
Bonner Hastings (WA) Radanovich
Bono Hayes Ramstad
Boozman Heller Regula
Boustany Hensarling Rehberg
Brady (TX) Herger Reichert
Broun (GA) Hobson Renzi
Brown (SC) Hoekstra Reynolds
Brown-Waite, Hulshof Rogers (AL)
Ginny Hunter Rogers (KY)
Buchanan Inglis (SC) Rogers (MI)
Burgess Johnson (IL) Rogers (KY)
Burton (IN) Johnson, Sam Rohrabacher
Buyer Jones (NC) Ros-Lehtinen
Calvert Jordan Roskam
Camp (MI) Keller Royce
Campbell (CA) King (IA) Ryan (WI)
Cannon King (NY) Sali
Cantor Kingston Saxton
Capito Kirk Schmidt
Carter Kline (MN) Sensenbrenner
Castle Knollenberg Shadegg
Chabot Kuhl (NY) Shays
Coble LaHood Shimkus
Cole (OK) Lamborn Shuster
Conaway Latham Simpson
Crenshaw LaTourette Smith (NE)
Culberson Lewis (CA) Smith (NJ)
Davis (KY) Lewis (KY) Smith (TX)
Davis, David LoBiondo Souder
Davis, Tom Lucas Stearns
Deal (GA) Lungren, Daniel
Dent E. Tancredo
Diaz-Balart, L. Mack Terry
Diaz-Balart, M. Manzullo Thornberry
Donnelly Marchant Tiahrt
Doolittle McCarthy (CA) Tiberi
Drake McCaul (TX) Turner
Dreier McCotter Upton
Duncan McCreery Walberg
Ehlers McHenry Walden (OR)
Ellsworth McHugh Walsh (NY)
Emerson McKeon Wamp
English (PA) McMorris Weldon (FL)
Everett Rodgers Westmoreland
Fallin Mica Whitfield
Feeney Miller (FL) Wicker
Ferguson Miller (MI) Wilson (NM)
Flake Miller, Gary Wilson (SC)
Forbes Moran (KS) Wolf
Fortenberry Murphy, Tim Young (AK)
Fossella Musgrave Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—25

Bean Gutierrez Ruppersberger
Berman Issa Sessions
Blackburn Jindal Sires
Carnahan Levin Taylor
Carson Linder Udall (CO)
Cubin Moore (KS) Weller
Cuellar Murphy (CT) Wilson (OH)
Dicks Oberstar
Doyle Paul

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote).

□ 1547

So the motion to table was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1099, I was unable to vote due to medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3074,
TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RE-
LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA-
TIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 817, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 3074) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 817, the conference report is considered read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of November 13, 2007, at page H13598.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference report to accompany H.R. 3074.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the conference report on H.R. 3074. Before I explain the contents of the conference report, however, I would like to thank my ranking member, the gentleman from Michigan, JOE KNOLLENBERG, for his great help in crafting a well-balanced Transportation and Housing bill. JOE and I have put together a strong bipartisan bill that will help address the Nation's important transportation and housing needs.

I think JOE and I have been a good team and I look forward to working closely with him again next year. I would also like to thank the staff on both sides of the aisle for all of their hard work. On the minority side, Dena Baron and Dave Gibbons and Jeff Goff. And on the majority side, Kate Hallahan, our clerk; Cheryle Tucker; David Napolioello; Laura Hogshead; Alex Gillen; Mark Fedor and Bob Letteney. They performed well under stress and trying circumstances, and without their dedication we would not be here today debating this bill.

Mr. Speaker, Members can and should be proud of this bill because it provides critical investments in our Nation's transportation and housing infrastructure, and does so within a fiscally sound manner and within our conference allocation.

Unlike some other issues we debate in Congress, transportation and housing have a long history of bipartisanship, and I hope we can continue in that spirit of bipartisanship today.

At their core, both transportation and housing have a direct impact on the people we represent. All of us are affected by congestion on our roads, travel delays in our airports, and the lack of dependable public transportation. We also all benefit from community development investments and the availability of affordable housing in our communities. This bill in so many ways affects each and every one of us.

Let me briefly explain some of the highlights of the conference report.

For the first time in 13 years, our bill includes \$75 million for the Veterans Affairs Supported Housing program, commonly known as VASH, to provide roughly 10,000 housing vouchers and supportive services to homeless veterans.

While we do not know the exact number of homeless veterans, the Veterans Administration has estimated that there were as many as 196,000 during a point-in-time count just last year. Surely we can all agree that 10,000 homeless veterans are 10,000 too many homeless veterans. Even one homeless veteran is a homeless veteran too many.

We have also included \$30 million for about 4,000 new housing vouchers for the disabled, the first new housing vouchers for the disabled in 5 years. The need for housing for the disabled has been well documented, with average housing rents rising much faster than a disabled person's monthly supplemental security income, SSI.

Secondly, the bill provides \$250 million to help with the current foreclosure crisis. We have included \$200 million over the President's request for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, a recognized national intermediary between lenders and homeowners, to help individuals and families forestall foreclosure and keep their homes. A separate \$50 million is provided for HUD's housing counseling program to help new potential home buyers avoid future foreclosures.

According to the Mortgage Bankers Association, the second quarter of this year saw the highest percentage of mortgages go into foreclosure since 1972. Many of those foreclosures and delinquencies are due to the proliferation of subprime and other adjustable-rate loans. With 2 million subprime mortgages expected to reset over the next 18 months, the number of homeowners facing delinquency is staggering in many parts of the country.

The funds included in this bill for foreclosure counseling is the first

major Federal investment into this growing crisis. The President has stated on a number of occasions that he wants to help solve this problem. If he is serious, he would sign this bill into law and help many tens of thousands of families receive the help they need to manage their finances and the refinancing of their mortgage so they can keep their homes.

In addition, the bill also makes significant investment in our transportation infrastructure. The Minnesota bridge tragedy put a national spotlight in the State, on the state of America's transportation infrastructure, especially with the number of lives lost in that tragedy. More than 20,000 out of some 100,000-plus bridges on the national highway system are characterized as "structurally deficient" or "functionally obsolete." Traffic on these bridges is over 190 million trips per day.

The conference report includes an additional billion dollars over the President's request for the bridge program as a downpayment to help States fix their long list of substandard bridges; \$195 million is specifically included for the I-35 bridge in Minnesota, which alone carried 140,000 passenger vehicles per day. And that sum will make Minnesota whole for the full replacement of that Interstate 35 bridge in Minneapolis.

Those are the new initiatives, but there are numerous other positive transportation and housing investments in this bill. The bill honors the highway guarantees which were set in the authorization bill in 2005, the SAFETEA-LU authorizing bill which was brought forward by the now minority just 2 years ago. That guarantee provides a record level of investment in transit as well. This funding will improve the Nation's transportation and infrastructure and is expected to create close to 80,000 new jobs between highways and transit.

The bill also provides \$1.375 billion for Amtrak, plus an additional \$75 million for a new intercity passenger rail program to create a faster, safer, and more reliable intercity passenger rail system. That \$75 million was requested by the President.

We have included \$3.5 billion for the Airport Improvement Program, the same as last year, for critical airport safety capacity and security upgrades.

We have also provided almost \$3.8 billion for Community Development Block Grants, the extremely popular CDBG program, which is \$100 million above fiscal year 2007 but still \$400 million below the fiscal year 2001 level. It is estimated that every dollar of community block grant funding leverages \$3 in private investment for critical community and economic development priorities in over a thousand localities around the country.

The bill restores housing for the elderly and disabled to last year's level. And finally, we have provided enough funding to ensure that no one that has